

C-8353

SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS CASES

018

EDGEWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL. U. KIRBY, 1988-89

WILLIAM, ET AL. (3RD DISTRICT)

C-8353  
EDGEWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL.  
WILLIAM, ET AL. (3RD DISTRICT)

SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS CASES

V. KIRBY,

018  
1988-89



STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE,

I am writing to request that you hear the Edgewood v. Kirby suit on behalf of the school districts in Texas with low property values per student.

Sanger ISD has the second highest tax rate out of the eleven schools in Denton County, and at the same time, Sanger has the second lowest value per student in Denton County - this is no coincidence. As a result, our school does not have adequate funds to meet state mandates, provide adequate science labs, etc.

A student's educational opportunities should not be determined by where he or she happens to be born or where his or her parents happen to live.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,

*Carol A. Morris*

*Taxpayer*

*Parent*

*Teacher*

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE,

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.80 rates were considered high.

More money is needed now for the low value districts to meet the challenge of educational reform; further delays will do irreparable damage.

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Thank you,



Merlin Rodgers  
Teacher

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Hazel Burgess

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislative and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had to do without the extras. There seems to be lack of equipment, supplies, and counselors. This is very unfair that students from small school districts have limited resources.

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Thank you,

*Hazel Burgess*

Hazel Burgess  
Parent

✓

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, JAN LOOPER

Lack of government funds have caused a lot of choice teachers to go to other school districts for better pay and adequate working conditions.

Taxes in this school district are so high that it causes people to choose to live elsewhere. This puts a burden on the tax payers still residing here. People in this district want a better education for their children but can't afford taxes rising each year due to lack of funding from the state.

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Thank you,



Jan Looper  
Parent

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Thank you,

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Thank you,

*Thonda Eubanks*



STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, *David Moore*

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

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Thank you,

*David Moore*

## STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE

As an educator in a property poor district, I am vitally interested in equity between the so called "property poor" and the wealthier districts in the state. In the last several years Sanger High School has lost state funding due to the PDI which is a part the funding formula. This has caused undue strain on the local budget which had to be cut due to a shortage of money. As principal of the high school, I have seen my instructional budget increased to raise standards and then reduced for two years straight to keep down the deficit. I have had my faculty cut by three teachers while the enrollment has remained essentially the same; consequently, the number of elective courses available to the student has been reduced. I have had extracurricular budgets cut in all areas. I have had to move classes into portable buildings instead of building additional permanent classrooms.

This puts the students of Sanger and other "property poor" districts at a disadvantage in giving its students the same advantages as the richer school. It limits the opportunities that the students need to compete with students from the wealthier districts. It discourages the students in achieving the excellence that should be sought in every educational setting.

This has also caused morale problems among the faculty with several professionals seeking employment elsewhere for more money and where more instructional materials are available. Teachers also have begun to wonder whether they are really important since their needs for the classroom are not being met.

I hope that these comments will help in making a decision to see that funding will be made more equitable among all the districts of Texas and not favor those districts with with larger population or greater tax base.

Thank you

*Bill Mustin*  
Bill Mustin,

Principal, Parent, Citizen

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Vickie Jenkins

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for distribution of state funds in Texas.

As a parent of two graduates of Sanger High School and a taxpayer, I am concerned because of the rising cost in our school district. My concern is well warranted because we pay higher taxes than any other school in our district, but our children have not benefited educationally. The good teachers we have are spread so thin it is not possible for them to do their job. For example, a high school with approximately 400 students has to share a counselor with the middle school. This gives one counselor the impossible job of working with almost 700 students. I find this appalling; a counselor's job is too important.

In short, we need your help for the benefit of the future of Texas.

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Thank you

  
Vickie Jenkins  
Parent

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, SUSAN BURKHART

I am concerned about the overall quality of education in the state of Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

To meet the increasing cost of operating the Sanger ISD, due to the failure of the State of Texas to adequately fund public education, the local Board of Sanger has already taken the following action this year:

- 1) Lowered the local increment paid to teachers by \$500.00.
- 2) Cut staff (two teachers, three part-time custodians, and two cooks).
- 3) Cut practically all budget areas (maintenance by \$50,000, extra-curricular--athletics, band, drama, etc.) by 14%.
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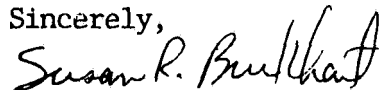
In spite of the measures mentioned above, the SISD projects a \$110,000 deficit for the current school year. We are just one of many school districts with these common problems.

What happens when the low property value districts are rendered inoperable? Who will be to blame?

If Texas expects to have a prosperous future, an investment must be made in the leaders of tomorrow.

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Sincerely,



Susan R. Burkhardt  
Concerned Texan

# TOWN & COUNTRY GARDENS



STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE Nancy Roe

As a citizen of a small rural school district, each year I see young men and women being graduated from high school without the preparation they need to compete in higher education or the working world.

While life will always have inequities, it makes no sense for some to have every educational opportunity, while those who live across an arbitrary, imaginary line are neglected. I can't help but feel that it's less expensive for us to educate people than to support them later in prisons or on welfare.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioner Intervenor in the Edgewood case.

Nancy Roe

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Wayne Tutt

As a taxpayer, I have only now come to realize that all of the rest of the school districts in the metroplex have not been paying a tax rate as high as \$1.24 just to support their schools.

I did not know that the so-called school reform and that the equity in the distribution of state funds to public schools started by H.B. 72 has not been met by the legislature until just recently.

A student's educational opportunities should not be determined by where he or she happens to be born or where his or her parents happen to live.

I urge you to hear and rule in favor of equity in state funds distributed to the public schools in Texas.

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Wayne Tutt  
Father and Taxpayer

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Linda Tutt

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Sincerely,

  
Linda Tutt  
Mother and Taxpayer

## Statement of Amicus Curiae, Peggy Hayes

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools here in Sugar suffer for various reasons (ie inadequate facilities, underpaid employees, lack of equipment and unattractive, overcrowded conditions). As a result, our students are robbed of opportunities freely given to children in larger towns.

More money is needed now for the low value districts. I do not believe a student's educational opportunities should be determined by where he or she happens to be born or where the parents happen to live.

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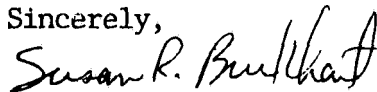
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Concerned Texan

# TOWN & COUNTRY GARDENS



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Nancy Roe

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Wayne Tutt

As a taxpayer, I have only now come to realize that all of the rest of the school districts in the metroplex have not been paying a tax rate as high as \$1.24 just to support their schools.

I did not know that the so-called school reform and that the equity in the distribution of state funds to public schools started by H.B. 72 has not been met by the legislature until just recently.

A student's educational opportunities should not be determined by where he or she happens to be born or where his or her parents happen to live.

I urge you to hear and rule in favor of equity in state funds distributed to the public schools in Texas.

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Wayne Tutt  
Father and Taxpayer

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Linda Tutt  
Mother and Taxpayer

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Thank you,  
Peggy Hayes  
Parent



**Statement of Amicus Curiae, Nancy Hausenfluck**

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas, and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools' budget has been cut in almost all areas. The high school building needs to be rebuilt. The roof leaks and we need more room for lockers and equipment. As it now stands just the maintenance has been cut by \$50,000. More staff is needed but already 2 teachers, 3 part-time custodians and 2 cooks have been cut. Last year they were wanting to cut Ag teachers and the Ag program. We need these things for the students to be able to advance to the level needed. Some parents are trying to take up the slack by spending time helping the teachers work with students or grade papers. This is nice, but, not everyone can spend their time at the school. In short, they can not be counted on when needed the most. Ninety-three other employees' salaries have been frozen. Extra-curricular activity has been cut. And local taxes have been raised by 2.9%. Still, the Sanger Independent School District projects a \$110,000 deficit for the current school year.

If this is allowed to continue there will almost certainly be further damages to the district and the education of the students of Sanger ISD.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioner Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,



Nancy Hausenfluck  
Parent - Sanger ISD

Statement of Amicus Curiae, Edwin Bruttin

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Low salaries for our teachers, roads, and our ~~administrators~~ along with leaky roofs and higher taxes have plagued our schools.

Before more damage is done, the low value districts need more money.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an Amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Interveners in the Edgewood Case.

Thank you,

Edwin Bruttin

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Amicus Brief in Support of Petitioners' and Petitioner-Intervenors' Applications for Writ of Error has been sent on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1989, by United States Mail, postage prepaid to all counsel of record.

Sandra R. Nicolas  
Sandra R. Nicolas  
State Bar Number 15016500

ARNOLD AND NICOLAS  
800 One Capitol Square  
300 West Fifteenth Street  
Austin, Texas 78701  
512-320-5200



RECEIVED  
IN SUPREME COURT  
OF TEXAS

NO. C-8353

JUN 20 1989

**C 8353**

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS  
AUSTIN, TEXAS

EDGEWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL.,

Petitioners

V.

WILLIAM KIRBY, ET AL.,

Respondents

BRIEF OF AMICUS CURIAE IN SUPPORT OF THE PETITIONERS AND  
PETITIONER-INTERVENORS BY THE  
SCHOOLCHILDREN OF SANGER ISD, SANGER, TEXAS

VOLUME I

NO. C-8353

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

AUSTIN, TEXAS

EDGEWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL.,

Petitioners

V.

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IN THE  
SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS  
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Respondents

BRIEF OF AMICUS CURIAE IN SUPPORT OF PETITIONERS AND  
PETITIONER-INTERVENORS BY THE  
SCHOOLCHILDREN OF SANGER ISD, SANGER, TEXAS

VOLUME I

TO THE HONORABLE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS:

Now come the schoolchildren of Sanger ISD, Sanger, Texas and submit the following statements in support of the ruling of the Honorable Harley Clark, Judge - 250th Judicial District, Travis County, in Cause Number 362,516.

The undersigned has been requested to submit these statements to the Court. The undersigned does not represent any party and has no monetary interest in the outcome of the litigation. The statements presented are from individuals

who have a substantial interest in preserving the State's ability to provide equitable public education to its citizens.

Accordingly, the schoolchildren of Sanger ISD, Sanger, Texas respectfully pray that this Court consider the attached statements (Volume I) and uphold the decision of the trial court in the case at bar.

Respectfully submitted,  
ARNOLD AND NICOLAS  
800 One Capitol Square  
300 West Fifteenth Street  
Austin, Texas 78701  
512-320-5200

by Sandra R. Nicolas  
Sandra R. Nicolas  
State Bar No. 15016500



## Statement of Amicus Curiae, Ami Spindle

There should be an equal amount of money spent on each school district in Texas. We have no playground equipment. There are people getting hurt because there is nothing to play with outside. We have more than 22 students in our class, because we cannot pay another teacher. It is hard to have to wait for help.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioner Intervenor in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,

Ami Spindle

4th grade student

Statement of Amicus Curiae,  
Talb Fenoglio

Our schools have never had adequate funds for buildings, equipment, supplies, personnel, etc., yet our school has for years had the second highest tax rate in Denton County.

Our students ability to succeed economically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities. The young people in our community both want and deserve equal educational opportunities.

I urge you to both hear Edgewood V. Kirby and to rule in favor of the low property value for student schools in the state of Texas.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenor in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,

Talb Fenoglio  
Student

Statement of Amicus Curiae, Jennifer Lynch

Our schools have never had adequate funds for buildings, equipment, supplies, personnel, ect., yet, our school has for years the second highest tax rate in Denton County.

A students ability to succeed economically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities. The young people in our community both want and deserve equal educational opportunities.

I urge you to both hear Edgewood v. Kirby and to rule in favor of the low property value per student schools in the state of Texas.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner - Intervenor in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely, Jennifer Lynch  
student

Statement of Amicus Curiae  
Katie Webster

Our schools have never had adequate funds for buildings, equipment, supplies, personnel, etc., yet our school has for years had the second highest tax rate in Denton County.

A student's ability to succeed economically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities. The young people in our community both want and deserve equal educational opportunities.

I urge you to both hear Edgewood v. Kirby and to rule in favor of the low property value per student schools in the state of Texas.

I authorize an attorney elected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenor in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,

Katie Webster  
Student

Statement of Amicus Curiae,  
Buddy Jackson

Our schools have never had adequate funds for buildings, equipment, supplies, personnel, etc., yet, our school has for years had the second highest tax rate in Denton County.

A student's ability to succeed economically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities. The young people in our community both want and deserve equal educational opportunities.

I urge you to both hear Edgewood V. Kirby and to rule in favor of the low property value per student schools in the state of Texas.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioners-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely, Buddy Jackson  
Student

Statement of Amicus Curiae, [unclear]

Chuck Butler

Our schools have never had adequate funds for buildings, equipment, supplies, personnel, etc., yet, our school has for years had the highest tax rate in Denton County.

A student's ability to succeed economically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities. The young people in our community both want and deserve equal educational opportunities.

I urge you to both hear Edgewood V. Kirby and rule in favor of the low property value per student schools and the state of Texas.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenor in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,

Chuck Butler

student

Statement of Amicus Curiae  
Chris Elison

Our schools have never had adequate funds for buildings, equipment, supplies, personnel, etc, yet, our school has for years had the second highest tax rate in Denton County.

A student's ability to succeed economically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities. The young people in our community both want and deserve equal educational opportunities.

I urge you to both hear Edgewood v. Kirby and to rule in favor of the low property value per student schools in the state of Texas.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenor in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely, Chris Elison

Student

Statement of Amicus Curiae,  
Jennifer Bellar

Our schools have never had adequate funds for buildings, equipment, supplies, personnel, etc., yet, our school district has had the second highest tax rate in Denton County.

A student's ability to succeed academically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities.

Young people in our community both want and deserve equal educational opportunities.

I urge you to both hear Edgewood V. Kirby and to rule in favor of the low property value per student schools in the state of Texas.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an Amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Bellar  
Student



## Statement of Amicus Curial, Holly Coleman

Our schools have never had adequate funds for buildings, equipment, supplies, personnel, etc., yet, our school has for years had the second highest tax rate in Denton County.

A student's ability to succeed economically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities. The young people in our community both want and deserve equal educational opportunities.

I urge you both hear Edgewood v. Kirby and to rule in favor of the low property value per student schools in the state of Texas.

I authorize an attorney selected by Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an Amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner Intervenor in Edgewood Case.

Sincerely, Holly Coleman  
Student

## Statement of Amicus Curiae, Rebecca Jones

Our schools have never had adequate funds for: buildings, equipment, supplies, personnel, etc., yet, our school has for years had second highest tax rate in Benton County.

A student's ability to succeed economically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities. The young people in our community both want and deserve equal educational opportunities.

I urge you to both hear Edgewood V. Kirby and to rule in favor of the low property value per student schools in the State of Texas.

I authorized an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus degree on my behalf supporting Petitioners and petitioners-interests in the Edgewood case.

In City, Rebecca Jones

## Statement of Amicus Curiae, Misty Ward

There should be an equal amount of money spent on each school district in Texas. Our parents pay more taxes than people in Dallas or Plano. It's not fair. There are more than 22 students in our room.

There should be more teachers. I authorize an attorney, selected by the Equity Center, to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioner Intervenor in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,

Misty Ward

Fourth grade student

Statement of Amicus Curiae, Frank Gibson

There be an equal amount of money spent on each school district in Texas. It isn't fair that our parents pay twice as much taxes as people in Dallas or Plano. We should be able to have the same amount as the wealthy schools.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioners Intervenor in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,  
Frank Gibson  
Fourth grade student

# Statement of Amicus Curiae Krystal Songora

There should be an equal amount of money spent on each school district in Texas. My own parents have to pay more taxes here than in Dallas and Plano. I think that is not fair. Our school is old, and does not have playground equipment either, and I think that's not fair to.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioner Intervenor in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,

Krystal Songora

4th grade student

Statement of Amicus Curiae, Josh Hunter

There should an equal amount of money spent on each school district in Texas. Our parents pay more taxes than people in Dallas or Plano. Plus we don't have any playground now that's no fair.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioners Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,

Josh Hunter  
4th grade  
student

Statement of Amicus Curiae Christine Kliche

There should be an

equal amount of money

spent on each school district

in Texas. Our parents pay

more taxes than people in

Dallas or DFW area. Our play

ground equipment was torn

down because it was falling

apart and we don't have

money to buy anymore.

We can't write in our

workbooks and they are

falling apart and we

have to fix them again

and again. They have to be

used again next year.

I authorize an attorney

to incorporate this statement in

an amicus brief supporting

the ~~petition~~ ~~petition~~ ~~petition~~

intervenor in the Edwards case.

Sincerely,  
Christine Kliche  
4th grade student

Statement of Amicus Curiae, Sandy Hogan

There should be an equal amount of money spent on each school district in Texas. The schools in Sanger don't have enough money to buy things for the students. The school doesn't have enough to even buy a playground. The teachers have to teach students and they don't get paid enough money. There are more taxes in Sanger than in Dallas and Plano. The teachers have more than 22 students.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioner Intervenor in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,  
Sandy Hogan  
4th grade



## Statement of Amicus Curiae, Courtney Boland

There should be an equal amount of money spent on each school district in Texas. My parents have to pay more taxes than people in Dallas or Plano. Since they have to pay more taxes they can't buy more stuff for me. We also have more than twenty-two kids in my class. That makes it very tight in here.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equality Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioner Interveners in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely

Courtney Boland

4<sup>th</sup> grade student

Statement of Amicus Curiae, Jacyn Ackerman

There should be an equal amount of money spent on each school district in Texas.

Our parents pay more taxes than people do in Dallas. We have more than 22 people in our room. We have no playground equipment.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an Amicus brief supporting Petitioner and Petitioner's Intervenor in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,  
Jacyn Ackerman  
4th grade student,

Statement of Amicus Curiae, Michael Alexander

There should be an equal amount of money spent on each school district in Texas. Our parents are paying more money than Dallas pays. There are more than 22 students in our glass room. That's against the law in Texas. We should be able to have as many supplies as the wealthy schools.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an Amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioner's Intervention in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,  
Michael Alexander  
4th grade student

## Statement of Amicus Curiae, Stephen Waide

There should be an equal amount of money spent on each school district in Texas. We don't have any playground equipment. We should have some playground equipment. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade needs a new teacher because we have more than 22 kids in a class room.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioners-Interventors in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,  
Stephen Waide  
4<sup>th</sup> grade student

Statement of Amicus Curiae, Erik Olson

There should be an equal amount of money spent on each school district in Texas.

We have more than 22 students in our room and we are going to have more next year. We have no playground equipment at all. We can't write in our workbooks because we have to keep them for five years and they're only two years old and they're already falling apart.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioner Intervenor in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,

Erik Olson

4th grade student

## Statement of Amicus Curiae, Lindsay Miller

There should be an equal amount of money spent on each school district in Texas. Our moms and dads pay more taxes in Langer than the people in Dallas or in any other big cities and I don't think that's fair at all. Our schools are old and we don't have any equipment and Dallas and other big cities have tons of equipment.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioners Intervenor in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,  
Lindsay Miller  
fourth grade student

## Statement of Amicus Curiae, Michael Kelly

There should be an equal amount of money spent on each school district in Texas. They would then be paying more taxes than people in Dallas and El Paso. They get good equipment. They pay less money for the same quality of a car and they get a population of about 10 million people. They have more money than the state. I am a lawyer, an attorney selected by the Family Center to investigate the situation. I am a lawyer, an attorney, and Peterson. I am a lawyer, an attorney, and Peterson. I am a lawyer, an attorney, and Peterson.

Sincerely,  
Michael Kelly  
A. H. Jones student

Statement of Amicus Curiae, Angela White

There should be an equal amount of money spent on each school district in Texas. All classes have more than 27 kids in a class so we need a new teacher. We should be able to have playground equipment. We need a new school. The one we have is cracked and falling down.

I am authorizing and attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioner Intervenor in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,  
Angela White  
fourth grade student



Statement of Amicus Curiae, Scott Marrufo

There should be an equal amount of money spent on each school district in Texas. My grandparents have to pay more taxes than Dallas or Plano people. That's not fair! So I think Dallas and Plano should pay the same amount of tax as they do.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate the statement in an amicus brief supporting Petitioners and Petitioner Intervenor in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,  
Scott Marrufo  
Fourth grade student

Statement of Amicus Curiae,  
Stacey Livan

Our schools have never had adequate funds for building, equipment, supplies, personnel, etc., yet, our school has for many years had the second highest tax rate in Denton County.

A student's ability to succeed economically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities. The young people in our community both want and deserve equal educational opportunities.

I urge you both to hear Edgewood U. Kirby and to rule in favor of the low property value per student schools in the state of Texas.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and

Petitioner-Intervenors in the  
Edgewood case.

Sincerely,  
Stacey Iruan  
student

Statement of Amicus Curiae,  
Bryan Mark Magana

Our school have never had adequate funds for buildings, equipment, supplies, personnel, etc., yet, our school has for years had the second highest tax rate in Denton County.

A student's ability to succeed economically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities. The young people in our Community both want and deserve equal educational opportunities.

I urge you to both hear Edgewood V Kialy and to rule in favor of the low property value per student schools in the state of Texas.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity center to incorporate this statement in an Amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenor in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely,

Bryan Mark Magana

student

Statement of Amicus Curiae,  
Dana Lynch

Our schools have never had adequate funds for buildings, equipment, supplies, personnel, etc., yet, our school has for years had the second highest tax rate in Denton County.

A student's ability to succeed economically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities. The young people in our community both want and deserve equal educational opportunities.

I urge you to vote hear Edgewood v. Kirby and to rule in favor of the low property value per student schools in state of Texas.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an Amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely, Dana Lynch  
student

## Statement of Amicus Curiae

~~Johnathan Sims~~ Sims

Our schools have never had adequate funds for building, equipment, supplies, personnel, etc, yet, our school has for years had the second highest tax rate in Denton County, TX.

A student's ability to succeed economically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities. The young people in our community both want and deserve equal educational opportunities.

I urge you to both hear Edgewood v. Kirby and to rule in favor of the low property value per student schools in the state of Texas.

I authorized an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an Amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petition and petitioners Interveners in the Edgewood case.



Sincerely, Johnathan Sims  
Student

## Statement of Amica Curise, Wesley Erwin

Our schools have never had adequate funds buildings, equipment, supplies, personnel, etc., yet, our school has for years had the second highest tax rate in Denton County.

A student's ability to succeed economically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities. The young people in our community both want and deserve equal education opportunities.

I urge you to both hear Edgewood V. Kirby and to rule in favor of the low property value per student schools in the state of Texas.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioners in the Edgewood

*Sincerely*

*Wesley Ewin*

Statement of amicus curiae,  
adam Van Doren

Our schools have never had adequate funds for building, equipment, supplies, personnel, etc., yet, our school has for years had the second highest tax rate in Denton County.

A student's ability to succeed economically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities. The young people in our community both want and deserve equal educational opportunities.

I urge you to both hear Edgewood V. Kirby and to rule in favor of the lower property value per student schools in the state of Texas.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief.

on my behalf supporting  
Petitioners and Petitioners-  
Intervenors in the Edgewood  
case.

Sincerely,  
adam Van Doren  
student

Statement of Amicus Curiae,  
Rusty Keith Walters

Our school have never had adequate funds for buildings, equipment, supplies, personnel, etc., yet, our school has, for years, had the second highest tax rate in Denton County.

A student's ability to succeed economically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities. The young people in our community both want and deserve equal educational opportunities.

I urge you to both hear Edgewood V. Kirby and to rule in favor of the low property value per student, schools in the state of Texas.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an Amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner - Intervenor in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely, Rusty Reichert  
Student

Statement of Amicus Curiae  
Andra Watson

Our schools have never had adequate funds for building, equipment, supplies, personnel, etc., yet, our school has for years had the second highest tax rate in Kenton County.

A student's ability to succeed economically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities. The young people in our Community both want and deserve equal educational opportunities.

I urge you to both hear Edgewood V. Kirby and to rule in favor of the low property value per student schools in the state of Texas.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center



to incorporate this  
statement in an Amicus  
brief my behalf supporting  
Petitioners and Petitioner  
Intervenors in the Edgewood  
case.

Sincerely, Ancha Watson  
Student

# Statement of Amicus Curiae, Emmy Langford

Our schools have never had adequate funds for buildings, equipment, supplies, personnel, etc., yet our school has for years had the second highest tax rate in Denton County.

A student's ability to succeed economically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities. The young people in our community both want and deserve equal educational opportunities.

I urge you to both hear Edgewood V. Kirby and to rule in favor of the low property value per student schools in the state of Texas.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center

to incorporate this statement  
in an Amicus brief on my  
behalf supporting Petitioners  
and Petitioner - Interveners  
in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely, Emmy Langford  
Student

Statement of Amicus Curiae,  
Alicia Ashbrook

Our schools have never had adequate funds for buildings, equipment, supplies, personnel, etc., yet, our school has for years had the second highest tax rate in Denton County.

A student's ability to succeed economically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities. The young people in our community both want and deserve equal educational opportunities.

I urge you to both hear Edgewood V. Kirby and to rule in favor of the low property value per student schools in the state of Texas.

I authorize an attorney  
selected by the Equity Center  
to incorporate this statement  
in an amicus brief on my  
behalf supporting Petitioners  
and Petitioner-Intervenors  
in the Edgewood case.

Sincerely, Alicia Ashbrook  
student

Statement of Amicus Curiae,  
Katie Head

Our schools have never had adequate funds for buildings, equipment, supplies, personnel, etc., yet, our school has for years had the second highest tax rate in Denton County.

A student's ability to succeed economically is impaired by inadequate educational opportunities. The young people in our community both want and deserve equal educational opportunities.

I urge you to both hear *Edgewood vs. Kirby* and to rule in favor of the low property value per student schools in the state of Texas.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and

Petitioner - Intervenor in the  
Edgewood case.

Sincerely,

Katie Head  
Student

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Amicus Brief in Support of Petitioners' and Petitioner-Intervenors' Applications for Writ of Error has been sent on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1989, by United States Mail, postage prepaid to all counsel of record.

Sandra R. Nicolas

Sandra R. Nicolas  
State Bar Number 15016500

ARNOLD AND NICOLAS  
800 One Capitol Square  
300 West Fifteenth Street  
Austin, Texas 78701  
512-320-5200





RECEIVED  
IN SUPREME COURT  
OF TEXAS

C 8353

NO. C-8353

JUN 21 1989

JOHN T. ADAMS, Clerk

BY                      DEPUTY

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

AUSTIN, TEXAS

EDGEWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL.,

Petitioners

V.

WILLIAM KIRBY, ET AL.,

Respondents

BRIEF OF AMICUS CURIAE IN SUPPORT OF THE PETITIONERS AND  
PETITIONER-INTERVENORS BY THE  
SCHOOLCHILDREN OF SANGER ISD, SANGER, TEXAS

VOLUME II

NO. C-8353

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EDGEWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL.,  
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WILLIAM KIRBY, ET AL.,  
Respondents

BRIEF OF AMICUS CURIAE IN SUPPORT OF PETITIONERS AND  
PETITIONER-INTERVENORS BY THE  
SCHOOLCHILDREN OF SANGER ISD, SANGER, TEXAS

VOLUME II

TO THE HONORABLE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS:

Now come the schoolchildren of Sanger ISD, Sanger, Texas and submit the following statements in support of the ruling of the Honorable Harley Clark, Judge - 250th Judicial District, Travis County, in Cause Number 362,516.

The undersigned has been requested to submit these statements to the Court. The undersigned does not represent any party and has no monetary interest in the outcome of the litigation. The statements presented are from individuals

who have a substantial interest in preserving the State's ability to provide equitable public education to its citizens.

Accordingly, the schoolchildren of Sanger ISD, Sanger, Texas respectfully pray that this Court consider the attached statements (Volume II) and uphold the decision of the trial court in the case at bar.

Respectfully submitted,  
ARNOLD AND NICOLAS  
800 One Capitol Square  
300 West Fifteenth Street  
Austin, Texas 78701  
512-320-5200

by Sandra R. Nicolas  
Sandra R. Nicolas  
State Bar No. 15016500

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Staci Jenkins

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

As a senior in high school I have been witness to the disadvantages we in a less affluent school district have had. I have also noted that my family pays higher school taxes than do those in other school districts. These high tax dollars in our district do not go towards modern science equipment, restocking the library, more experienced teachers or even enough paper to last a whole year. Our higher taxes are necessary simply to keep the school doors open.

It is a terrible feeling when our football team and support groups travel twenty-five miles to play a football game and we feel like a small school playing a Southwest Conference Team because of the difference in their elaborate facilities and uniforms and ours. In short, Sanger I.S.D. has been at a large disadvantage because of the shortage of funds.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

*Staci Jenkins*

Staci Jenkins  
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Cherise Frickman

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our teachers at our school have had to buy many materials for teaching their students and that is definitely unfair. Why should teachers have to use the money out of their pockets to buy necessary materials, is that right that teachers should have to do that?

More money is needed now for the low value districts to meet the challenge of educational reform; further delays will do irreparable damage.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement as an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Invervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cherise Frickman".

Cherise Frickman  
Student

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, *Keith Ivy*

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.80 rates were considered high.

More money is needed now for the low value districts to meet the challenge of educational reform; further delays will do irreparable damage.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement as an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

*Keith Ivy*



**PLEASE NOTE:**

The following statements are essentially identical to the first statement bound in this volume.

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Eric Jason Ce Ballos

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.80 rates were considered high.

More money is needed now for the low value districts to meet the challenge of educational reform; further delays will do irreparable damage.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement as an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,



STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Eric Mathis

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.80 rates were considered high.

More money is needed now for the low value districts to meet the challenge of educational reform; further delays will do irreparable damage.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement as an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

Eric B. Mathis

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, *Thomas Mullins*

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.60 rates were considered high.

More money is needed now for the low value districts to meet the challenge of educational reform; further delays will do irreparable damage.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement as an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

*Thomas Mullins*

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, *John Burkhardt*

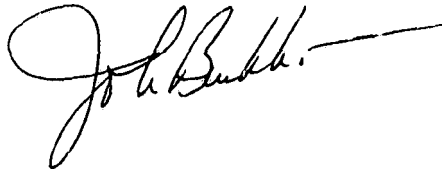
I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.80 rates were considered high.

More money is needed now for the low value districts to meet the challenge of educational reform; further delays will do irreparable damage.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement as an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Burkhardt", followed by a horizontal line.

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Teresa McDonnell

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.80 rates were considered high.

More money is needed now for the low value districts to meet the challenge of educational reform; further delays will do irreparable damage.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement as an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

*Teresa McDonnell*

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, TIPP CHANTHARANGMUL

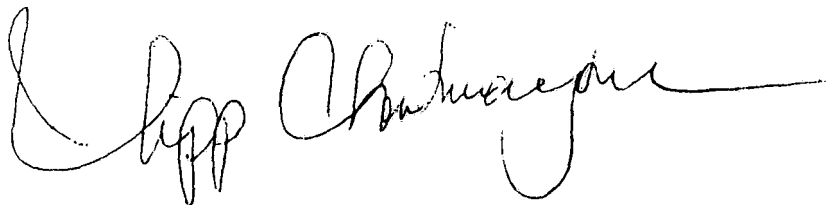
I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.60 rates were considered high.

More money is needed now for the low value districts to meet the challenge of educational reform; further delays will do irreparable damage.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement as an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tipp Chantharangmul", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, *Christie Holland*

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.80 rates were considered high.

More money is needed now for the low value districts to meet the challenge of educational reform; further delays will do irreparable damage.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement as an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

*Christie Holland*



STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, *Tephanie Howard*

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.80 rates were considered high.

More money is needed now for the low value districts to meet the challenge of educational reform; further delays will do irreparable damage.

I have had an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement into an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenor in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

*Tephanie  
Howard*

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, *Jayson E. Berndt*

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.80 rates were considered high.

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I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement as an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

*Jayson E. Berndt*

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, *Rhonda Trietsch*


I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.80 rates were considered high.

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I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement as an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

Handwritten signature of Rhonda Trietsch, consisting of a stylized first name and a last name that appears to be 'Trietsch'.

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Laura Step

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.80 rates were considered high.

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I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement as an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

Laura  
Step

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, *Terry McClure*

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.80 rates were considered high.

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I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement as an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

*Terry  
McClure*

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, *John Melton*

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.80 rates were considered high.

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I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement as an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

*John Melton*

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Daniel Porter

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.80 rates were considered high.

More money is needed now for the low value districts to meet the challenge of educational reform; further delays will do irreparable damage.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement as an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

*Daniel Porter II*

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, *James F. Davis III*

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas:

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.80 rates were considered high.

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Thank you,

*James F. Davis III*



STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE,

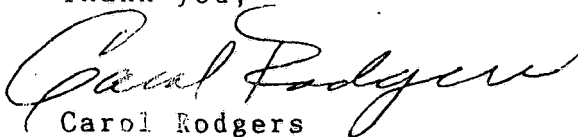
I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

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I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement in an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you,

  
Carol Rodgers

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, Jennifer Marmen

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.80 rates were considered high.

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Thank you,

Jennifer  
Marmen

Kasey  
Crawford

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE,

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.80 rates were considered high.

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Thank you,

Kasey Crawford

STATEMENT OF AMICUS CURIAE, *Daniel Cooper*

I am vitally concerned about public education in Texas and about the failure of the Legislature and Governor to support an equitable method for the distribution of state funds in Texas.

Our schools have had roofs that leak, low salaries from the custodians to the superintendent, lack of equipment, etc., and high taxes for years. Our tax rate was \$1.20 per hundred back when \$0.50 and \$0.60 rates were considered high.

More money is needed now for the low value districts to meet the challenge of educational reform; further delays will do irreparable damage.

I authorize an attorney selected by the Equity Center to incorporate this statement as an amicus brief on my behalf supporting Petitioners and Petitioner-Intervenors in the Edgewood case.

Thank you, *Daniel Cooper*